

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The TPK (Trudovo-Proizvoditelni Kooperatsii - Labor and Producer Cooperatives) are controlled by the General Union of TPK (Obsht Suyuz na TPK), which rules on the establishment of new TPK and determines the policy of existing TPK. The General Union in turn receives its instructions and directives directly from government organs. It works out in detail the overall production plans received from the government organs, divides them, and sends them to the respective Okrug centers and individual TPK. The General Union then allots raw materials to the TPK on the basis of their allotted share of the production plan.
 2. The General Union is located at 33 Ul. Alabin, Sofia. The management board of seven officials is elected for a period of four years by a general meeting of the Okrug branches. For administrative purposes, the operations of the TPK are divided into 12 regional bodies, one for each Okrug and known as Regional Union (Rayonen Suyuz), which correspond to the division of the supervisory body of government factories into Associations (Obedineniya).
 3. Membership in TPK occasionally totals 600-700 workers. Any person over 16 years of age can be admitted as a member, and the membership fee, which is fixed by each TPK, is a nominal sum. TPK are also permitted to hire workers, but the number must not exceed 10 percent of the number of regular members, except for extraordinary cases required by an urgent need for increased production.
 4. The Government finances the initial stages of operations of the TPK, and deductions from the gross income of each TPK is destined first for taxes, repayment of government loans, and for "government funds". The remainder is divided among the TPK members. Deductions from the gross income are made for the following funds: the capital (investment) fund and the "shares" fund, which are increased annually by transference of a certain percentage of the gross income; and the special fund, which is used for rewards and special grants to exceptional workers, for financing Party organizations, for cultural activities in the TPK, and other like purposes.

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5. In addition to taxes, from 30 to 40 percent of the annual gross income is transferred to the state. The remainder is divided as follows: 40 percent to the capital fund, 30 percent to the special fund, and 30 percent to the TPK members as annual dividends. The annual dividend does not exceed the monthly average earnings of each member, which is from 600 to 800 leva.
6. A TPK which ends the plan year with a financial loss is closed. There are now 80 TPK, 50 of them in Sofia, which are closing down their operations because they have not been profitable.
7. TPK are categorized on the basis of membership as follows:
 - a. Category I: over 100 members
 - b. Category II: 50 - 100 members
 - c. Category III: 30 - 50 members
 - d. Category IV: under 30 members
8. The 1,100 TPK in Bulgaria are dispersed in the 12 regional branches as follows:
Sofia - 304, Plovdiv - 132, Pleven - 108, Stara Zagora - 93, Turnovo - 93, Burgas - 81, Stalin (Varna) - 68, Kolarovgrad (Shumen) - 66, Vratsa - 61, Khaskovo - 50, Blagoevgrad - 27, and Ruse - 15.

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